

## Auditor's Figures Expose Extravagance of Governor Willis In State Affairs

**Report of State Official Shows That First Year of Republican Administration Will Cost Nearly \$5,000,000 More Than Last Year Under Governor Cox—Treasury Facing Big Deficit.**

If additional proof were needed to show the taxpayers of Ohio that they were bled into voting for Frank B. Willis, the small town statesman, for governor, it is furnished in ample and satisfying sufficiency by the published statement of State Auditor Donahey.

Governor Willis made his campaign effective by constantly yapping, and proving, for that matter, that the Cox administration had been unduly extravagant, and promising an economic administration if the votes would only please elect him.

Yet the Willis Administration has appropriated for the fiscal year, in round numbers, \$23,000,000 as against \$18,000,000 spent during the last year of the Cox Administration.

During the campaign last fall Mr. Willis had much to say about the amount of money spent for traveling expenses by Cox appointees. It is shown that under the last year of the Cox regime office holders spent somewhat over \$407,000 for traveling expenses. Yet the Willis Administration has provided for a fund of \$515,674,000 to enable its henchmen to travel in Pullmans, taxicabs, and eat two-buck meals at the expense of the taxpayers.

Wonderful ideas of economy, has our gifted young governor from Ada, that bucolic community which has produced so many truly great statesmen.

Auditor Donahey attempts to soften the blow dealt by cold figures and let the governor down as lightly as possible by suggesting that not only was James M. Cox, the wily Democratic governor, but Frank B. Willis, the urbane Republican incumbent, deceived by designing politicians and did not know how much money they were permitting to be spent.

It is barely possible, but not at all probable, that Frank B. Willis has been imposed upon to the extent that he has listened to the siren voices of the politicians. But no one for a moment supposes that he did not know what was being done and was a party to the act.

On the other hand, no one who knows Jimmy Cox will for one moment believe that any politician or bunch of politicians, put anything over on him. The difference between Cox and Willis is that Cox has more sense than his party and Willis has not.

### Buying Gold Bricks.

The Labor Advocate has about as much sympathy for the taxpayers of the State as it has for the man who buys a gold brick from an alleged Indian. They knew, or should have known, that Willis was handing them a gold brick when he made his extravagant promises of intrenchment and economy during his campaign for election. That sort of bunk has been handed out every two years since the year 1803, when the late Edward Tiffin was the first candidate for governor in the then new State of Ohio. And none of them ever has made good his promises.

Not only has the Willis administration run up the biggest bill in the whole history of the State, but it has left the way open for the expenditure of more money than will be available, and has paved the way for a deficit in the State treasury for the first time in many years.

### BUTCHERS WANT SHOPS CLOSED ON SUNDAY.

An effort to close the meat markets on Sunday is under way in this city. Rudolph Modest, General Organizer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers' Workmen of North America having come here to aid the local men complete their organization.

The men declare they do not intend to call for any Sunday closing laws from the legislature of the State, nor to apply for any city ordinance to that effect. They expect to start an educational campaign so the public will not buy any meat or produce on Sunday.

According to the report of the Auditor, instead of keeping the appropriations for two years under the \$40,000,000 mark, as easily could have been done, the Willis General Assembly passed appropriation bills exceeding \$49,000,000 and they were obediently, even cheerfully, signed by the economy loving governor.

All of which goes to show that Francis Bartlett Willis, despite his early training in the economic atmosphere of Ada, Ohio, and his present predilection for preachers on the Civil Service Board, is no more to be trusted than his predecessors in the office—and history has proved that they were not to be trusted at all when it came to handling the people's money.

### Watch for Statement.

It will not be long until Willis will come out with a statement in which he will attempt to explain away the figures of the State Auditor. He is one of the State's best little explainers, but if the public will only keep in mind the axiom that "figures don't lie," and that other axiom which is equally true, that politicians not only can but do, it will be able to arrive at a more satisfactory conclusion as to the real facts in the controversy.

Auditor Donahey includes in his report the following sapient reference to the members of the last General Assembly. He says:

"What else could be hoped for from a General Assembly that demands their pay for 1916 six months in advance, especially when we consider that they will do nothing during 1916 to earn it? They were more anxious for patronage and their own unearned salaries than to serve the State. We assert without fear of successful contradiction that there was not a member in either branch of the General Assembly who could estimate within several million dollars how much money the assembly had voted from the Treasury, every dollar so authorized to be spent coming from the pockets of Ohio citizens."

Warming up to his work, seems to be a pleasant, though a necessary task, the State Auditor dips his pen in vitriol and writes:

### Lands Vicious Uppercut.

"Here we have a 'reform' Governor, elected on a platform pledging economy, signing appropriation bills that make available to departments and institutions, a sum so vast and exorbitant that nothing short of the inability of his appointees to spend all authorized will prevent the State Treasury from becoming bankrupt. After excessive appropriations are made, the Governor is at the mercy of his boards and commissions, and he is powerless to prevent the dissipation of every cent appropriated. The present legislature, just like its predecessor, has thrown wide open the vaults of the State Treasury. After the Governor signs the appropriation bills his hands are tied, and the only check remaining is the limited power of the Auditor of State to require that all claims presented be equitable, legal and in proper form, before payment is authorized."

Then, believing he has the Governor prone on his back and gasping for breath, the State Auditor pauses for a reply.

### GLAZIERS TO PICNIC.

Members of Glaziers' Union No. 387, who have been on strike for several months, will hold a picnic at Chester Park, August 7, for the purpose of raising funds to aid the union.

### PLUMBERS TO GIVE PICNIC.

Plumbers and Gasfitters Local No. 59 will hold a picnic at Avoca Park, August 15. Robert Burnicle is chairman of the arrangements committee, which promises one of the most enjoyable outings of the season.



Joseph A. Cullen  
Re-elected President of Building Trades Council.

## Gov. Willis Again Stalls Labor Query

In answer to a letter from Fred Hock, Business Agent of the Building Trades Council of Cincinnati and Vicinity, in which he was asked to use his power and influence to protect the workmen of the State against the liability insurance companies, Gov. Frank B. Willis, as usual, dodged the direct issue involved and sent back an answer that says nothing.

Mr. Hock had asked the governor to protect the Workmen's Compensation Law, and desired to know what action the executive proposed to take. The governor replied as follows:

"Your letter of recent date received. I can assure you that I have no disposition to interfere in any way in any matter which is properly under the jurisdiction of the State Industrial Commission. The question to which you refer is, as I understand, now under consideration by that body, and an early decision is expected."

"My own friendly attitude towards the Workmen's Compensation Law is too well known to require discussion."

But what is the governor's attitude, and what will he do in the present fight to nullify the workings of that law?

### DIAMOND LIGHT QUILTS

**Adverse Court Decisions Prevent It From Extending Its Lines.**

The Diamond Light Company, organized a year ago to supply electric current to consumers in the downtown district, will soon close its plant on Walnut street and go out of business. Vice-President Wikel, of the concern, sent a letter to its customers, advising them that after August 1 they would have to get current from some other source.

Adverse Court decisions, which prevented the company from extending its wires across alleys or streets from the one-fourth of a block in which its plant is located made the venture unprofitable. The company was incorporated in 1914 with a capital stock of \$30,000, and the following officers were elected: G. E. Turner of Pittsburg, president; J. M. Wikel, vice-president; N. F. Bachman, secretary, and M. Miller, treasurer. More than \$40,000 was expended on machinery, which was installed in the basement of the Strand Theatre Building.

### HANDS OFF THE WAR

The Central Labor Council, at its regular weekly meeting, decided by a vote of 74 to 14, to keep its hands off the present war, and refused to endorse a resolution presented by a delegate from the Labor Peace Council. It was the object of the resolution to have organized labor petition the government to take over all arms and ammunition plants in the United States and to refuse to sell war supplies to the belligerents.

### BANQUET FOR GOMPERS.

The Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council have planned a banquet for President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, to be held at the Aul Wiedersehen Cafe, Twelfth and Walnut streets, on the evening of August 2. Frank Rist, editor of The Chronicle, is chairman of committee in charge of arrangements.

## Building Trades Council Holds Annual Election; But One Ticket in Field

**Cullen, Fischer, Hock, Nolde, McHale and Koch Unanimously Elected—Gasdorf, Lohrum and Anderson Chosen Trustees—Yearly Banquet Will Be Given Next Thursday Night.**

At the annual election of the Building Trades Council of Cincinnati and Vicinity, held at the regular weekly meeting Thursday night, all the officers were unanimously re-elected, and were immediately installed by Past President Connors. The election resulted as follows:

President, Joseph A. Cullen.  
Vice-President, Phil Fischer.  
Recording Secretary and Business Agent, Fred Hock.  
Financial Secretary, Joseph Nolde.  
Warden, James McHale.  
Conductor, George Koch.  
Trustees, Gasdorf, Lohrum and Anderson.

The annual banquet of the Council will follow the usual custom, and will be held after the regular weekly meeting next Thursday night.

President Cullen presided at the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting and the report of Business Agent Hock were read and adopted.

John Leich, of Lathers' Union No. 47, and Jake Valhart, of Sheet Metal Workers No. 141, were obligated. All trades reported business fair.

Business Agent Fred Hock asked and was granted a leave of absence for fifteen days to attend the International Convention of the Sheet Metal Workers, to be held in Detroit. Tom Anderson was named to succeed Mr. Hock during his absence.

The following communication from Waiters' Union, Local 663, Covington, Ky., was received and spread on the minutes:

"We wish to notify you that Darpel's garden, Rosedale, Ky., and Stevie's road house, Ft. Mitchell, are unfair to us. We wish you would instruct all delegates to report back to their respective locals and request all members to stay away from these places. We hope you will read this at three successive meetings."

The following communication was received from the Joint Labor Day and Outing Committee of the Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council:

## Summer is Trying Time For Cincinnati Car Men

By CHARLES H. SAMPSON.

Summer is here, and no one knows it better than the street car men of Cincinnati. This is the time of the year when the work of operating a street car in Cincinnati is the most tiresome to the employees. The type of car in general use is the car equipped with the running board.

During the rush hours, people going to and returning from their labors, and in the evening those seeking recreation and a cool spot, find occasion to ride upon this type of car. Did you ever watch the conductor attending to his various duties and attempting to accommodate the traveling public?

His first duty is to carry out his instructions as laid down to him by the operating company, namely, the collection of fare, the issuing of transfers, caring for the safety of his passengers, calling streets and transfer points, and obeying a thousand and one little rules laid down for his guidance.

His second duty is to be courteous and gentlemanly in his actions, and wear a smile at all times. And last but not least, he is instructed to use his own judgment when an incident occurs which is not covered in the rules prescribed.

In carrying out his first duty it is often necessary to grope for a handle, reaching over several people and trusting to luck in an attempt to catch hold

"To the Officers and Members of Organized Labor of Cincinnati and Vicinity—Greetings:

"Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council, through their Executive Boards, have decided to have a Labor Day parade and outing. Of this you have been informed. There is another matter in this connection which is of vital importance, and that is finances.

"The outing will take place at Chester Park, Monday, September 6, immediately after the parade.

"During the past year Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council, as formerly, have taken an active part in all matters affecting the welfare of labor, both in this immediate vicinity and State affairs. It takes real money to do things, and it is necessary, therefore, to ask each and every member of Organized labor to do what he or she can to still further make your Councils a power for improved conditions.

"Tickets of admission to the outing are being sent you. You are asked to take one for each of your members. The amount to the individual is small, but when all the men and women holding affiliation with your central bodies do their full duty, you will be in a position to do still greater things in the future.

"The celebration of Labor Day in 1915 can be made the greatest and best in our history. Will you not do your part? See that each and every one who secures a ticket uses it at the gate at Chester Park.

"You will know what united action means: let there be the same step taken as to this coming Labor Day.

"Tickets can be secured at each session of Central Labor Council or Building Trades Council from the committee having the matter in charge. Keep that committee busy—and they will be happy.

Fraternally yours,  
"FRANK IMWALLE, Secretary,  
"1311 Walnut street.

"P. S.—If your local has not decided to parade on Labor Day, please do so at once and notify the committee of your action."

of an upright in order to steady himself and maintain his position on the running board. He has no time to lose. At the next corner, possibly, he must make a pull-down (change trolleys from one set of wires to another).

People get off and on the car, and he is continually working on the running board, always taking a chance, trying to accommodate and look pleasant. His second duty is to be courteous and gentlemanly in his actions. A union street car man in Cincinnati is naturally courteous and gentlemanly in his actions, or else he could not hold his position. Circumstances and occasions arise at times compelling a conductor to enforce the rules and regulations laid down by the company and city and State ordinances and laws when passengers refuse to comply of their own accord.

A conductor or motorman should not be censured because he does his duty as he has been instructed. If your neighbor has a transfer which is no good, or tenders a piece of mutilated money as fare, or just through pure meanness wishes to argue with the conductor because he imagines he has that right, remember it is his duty to smile and look pleasant while he is enforcing the regulations and rules.

Long hours and tiresome work do  
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